

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method to facilitate automated software
2 installation on a remote computer over the Internet, comprising:
3 creating an archive, wherein creating the archive involves:
4 specifying an operating system and software packages to be
5 included,
6 installing the operating system and software packages on a
7 configuration computer compatible with the remote computer,
8 testing the operating system and software packages on the
9 configuration computer,
10 creating a snapshot of the operating system and software
11 packages,
12 including a configuration file within the snapshot, and
13 saving the snapshot at a site on the Internet specified by an
14 archive locator for download by the remote computer, wherein the
15 snapshot including the configuration file is the archive;
16 storing the archive at the site on the Internet accessible using the archive
17 locator;
18 initializing the remote computer with the a custom operating system,
19 wherein the custom operating system allows access to the remote computer over
20 the Internet, wherein the custom operating system determines the location of the

21 | ~~an~~ archive, downloads the archive, installs the archived software and restarts the
22 | remote computer;
23 | providing ~~the~~ an archive locator to the remote computer, wherein the
24 | archive locator is one of, a uniform resource locator (URL) and a proprietary
25 | resource locator;
26 | requesting ~~the~~ an archive from a site specified by the archive locator,
27 | wherein the archive includes ~~the~~ an operating system and desired software
28 | packages pre-configured for the remote computer;
29 | upon receiving an authorized request for the archive from the remote
30 | computer, downloading the archive to the remote computer from the site specified
31 | by the archive locator; and
32 | re-initializing the remote computer with the operating system and software
33 | packages in the archive.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising loading the
2 | custom operating system into the remote computer during installation of the
3 | remote computer.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising initializing the
2 | remote computer automatically with the custom operating system when power is
3 | applied to the remote computer.

1 4-5 (Canceled).

1 | 6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~claim 5~~, wherein the
2 | configuration file includes data for configuring the operating system, network
3 | parameters, and software packages.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the archive locator
2 includes providing the archive locator over the Internet.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the archive locator
2 includes providing the archive locator in a command line parameter during
3 initialization of the remote computer.

1 9. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method to facilitate automated software installation on a remote computer over
4 the Internet, the method comprising:

5 creating an archive, wherein creating the archive involves:
6 specifying an operating system and software packages to be
7 included,
8 installing the operating system and software packages on a
9 configuration computer compatible with the remote computer,
10 testing the operating system and software packages on the
11 configuration computer,
12 creating a snapshot of the operating system and software
13 packages,
14 including a configuration file within the snapshot, and
15 saving the snapshot at a site on the Internet specified by an
16 archive locator for download by the remote computer, wherein the
17 snapshot including the configuration file is the archive;
18 storing the archive at the site on the Internet accessible using the archive
19 locator;

20 initializing the remote computer with the a-custom operating system,
21 wherein the custom operating system allows access to the remote computer over

22 | the Internet, wherein the custom operating system determines the location of the
23 | ~~an~~ archive, downloads the archive, installs the archived software and restarts the
24 | remote computer;
25 | providing the ~~an~~ archive locator to the remote computer, wherein the
26 | archive locator is one of, a uniform resource locator (URL) and a proprietary
27 | resource locator;
28 | requesting the ~~an~~ archive from a site specified by the archive locator,
29 | wherein the archive includes the ~~an~~ operating system and desired software
30 | packages pre-configured for the remote computer;
31 | upon receiving an authorized request for the archive from the remote
32 | computer, downloading the archive to the remote computer from the site specified
33 | by the archive locator; and
34 | re-initializing the remote computer with the operating system and software
35 | packages in the archive.

1 10. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, the
2 method further comprising loading the custom operating system into the remote
3 computer during installation of the remote computer.

1 11. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, the
2 method further comprising initializing the remote computer automatically with the
3 custom operating system when power is applied to the remote computer.

1 12-13 (Canceled).

1 14. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim
2 | 9-claim 13, wherein the configuration file includes data for configuring the
3 | operating system, network parameters, and software packages.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein
2 providing the archive locator includes providing the archive locator over the
3 Internet.

1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein
2 providing the archive locator includes providing the archive locator in a command
3 line parameter during initialization of the remote computer.

1 17. (Currently amended) An apparatus that facilitates automated software
2 installation on a remote computer over the Internet, comprising:
3 a creating mechanism that is configured to create an archive;
4 a storing mechanism that is configured to store the archive at a site on the
5 Internet accessible using an archive locator;
6 a specifying mechanism that is configured to specify an operating system
7 and software packages to be included;
8 an installing mechanism that is configured to install the operating system
9 and software packages on a configuration computer compatible with the remote
10 computer;
11 a testing mechanism that is configured to test the operating system and
12 software packages on the configuration computer;
13 wherein the creating mechanism is further configured to create a snapshot
14 of the operating system and software packages;
15 an including mechanism that is configured to include a configuration file
16 within the snapshot; and
17 a saving mechanism that is configured to save the snapshot at the site
18 specified by the archive locator for download by the remote computer, wherein the
19 snapshot including the configuration file is the archive

20 an initializing mechanism that is configured to initialize the remote
21 computer with the a-custom operating system, wherein the custom operating
22 system allows access to the remote computer over the Internet, and wherein the
23 custom operating system determines the location of the an-archive, downloads the
24 archive, installs the archived software and restarts the remote computer;
25 a providing mechanism that is configured to provide the an-archive locator
26 to the remote computer, wherein the archive locator is one of a uniform resource
27 locator (URL) and a proprietary resource locator;
28 a requesting mechanism that is configured to request the an-archive from
29 the a-site specified by the archive locator, wherein the archive includes an
30 operating system and desired software packages pre-configured for the remote
31 computer;
32 a downloading mechanism that is configured to download the archive to
33 the remote computer from the site specified by the archive locator, wherein the
34 downloading mechanism is further configured to download the archive to the
35 remote computer; and
36 a re-initializing mechanism that is configured to re-initialize the remote
37 computer with the operating system and software packages in the archive.

1 18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a loading
2 mechanism that is configured to load the custom operating system into the remote
3 computer during installation of the remote computer.

1 19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the initializing
2 mechanism is further configured to initialize the remote computer automatically
3 with the custom operating system when power is applied to the remote computer.

1 20-21 (Canceled).

1 | 22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 17~~claim 21~~, wherein the
2 configuration file includes data for configuring the operating system, network
3 parameters, and software packages.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein providing the archive
2 locator includes providing the archive locator over the Internet.

1 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein providing the archive
2 locator includes providing the archive locator in a command line parameter during
3 initialization of the remote computer.